SUPERMAN & THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES
ACTION COMICS
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
15¢
JUNE
NO. 389
HA! HA! HE'S GOT MUSCLES, BUT HE'S NO SUPER-MANTLE!
STRIKE THREE... YOU'RE OUT!
Featuring: "The KID WHO STRUCK OUT SUPERMAN!"

NOW!
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BONNIE & CLYDE
COWBOYS BATTLE MONSTERS IN THE LOST WORLD OF FORBIDDEN VALLEY
THE VALLEY OF GWANGI
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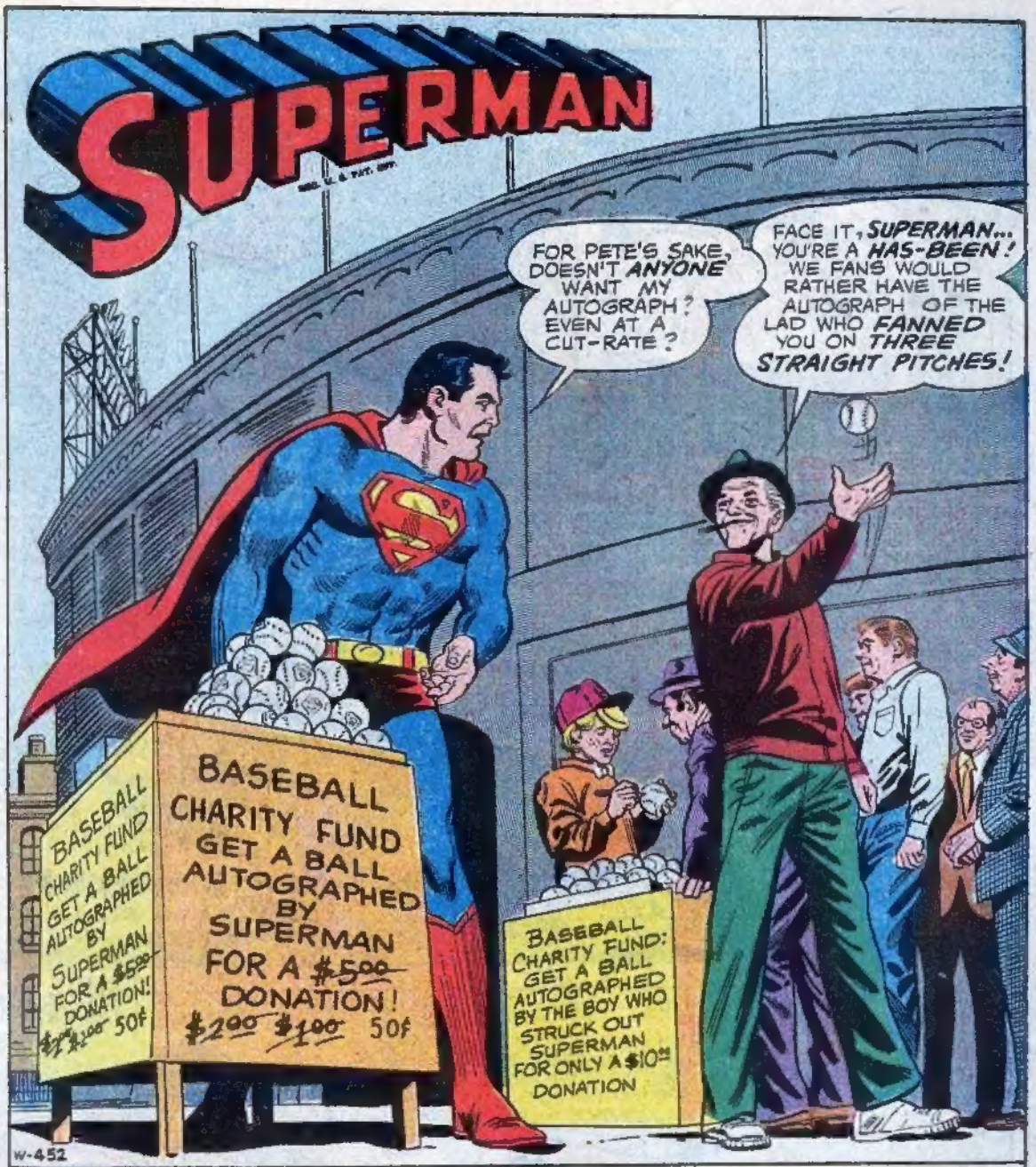
SUPERMAN
FOR PETE'S SAKE, DOESN'T ANYONE WANT MY AUTOGRAPH? EVEN AT A CUT-RATE?
FACE IT, SUPERMAN... YOU'RE A HAS-BEEN! WE FANS WOULD RATHER HAVE THE AUTOGRAPH OF THE LAD WHO FANNED YOU ON THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES!
BASEBALL CHARITY FUND GET A BALL AUTOGRAPHED BY SUPERMAN FOR A $5.00 DONATION! $2.00 $1.00 50¢
BASEBALL CHARITY FUND GET A BALL AUTOGRAPHED BY SUPERMAN FOR A $5.00 DONATION! $2.00 $1.00 50¢
BASEBALL CHARITY FUND: GET A BALL AUTOGRAPHED BY THE BOY WHO STRUCK OUT SUPERMAN FOR ONLY A $10.00 DONATION
W-452

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT SUPERMAN IS THE STRONGEST, FASTEST, MOST SUPERBLY CONDITIONED BEING ON ALL THE EARTH! IN ANY SPORT... FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, BOXING... NO ONE IS A MATCH FOR THE MAN OF STEEL! BUT WHEN IT COMES TO BASEBALL, EARTH'S GREATEST HERO MUST BOW TO...

THE KID WHO STRUCK OUT SUPERMAN!

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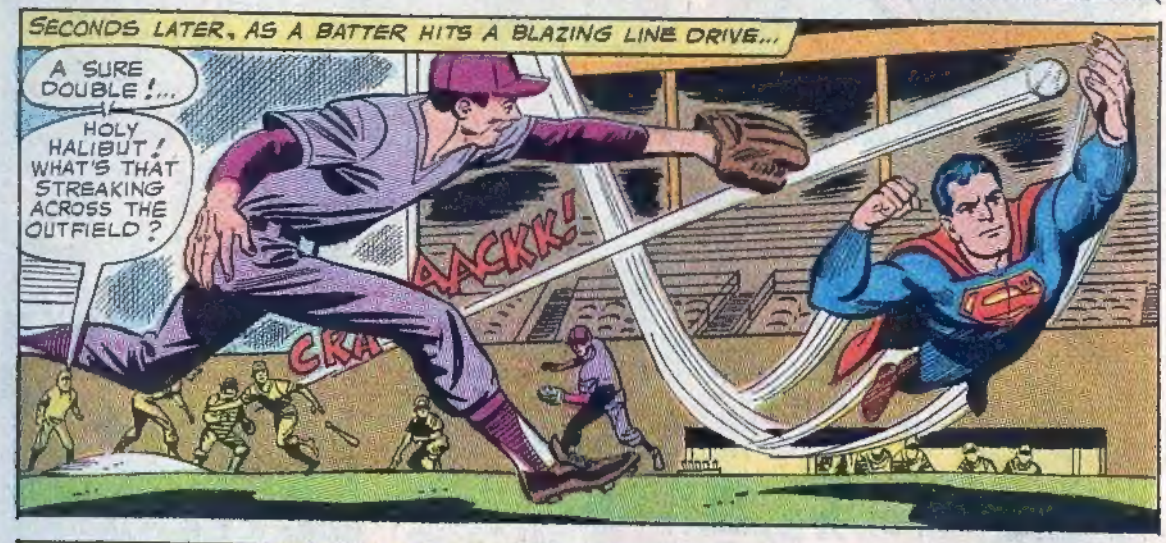
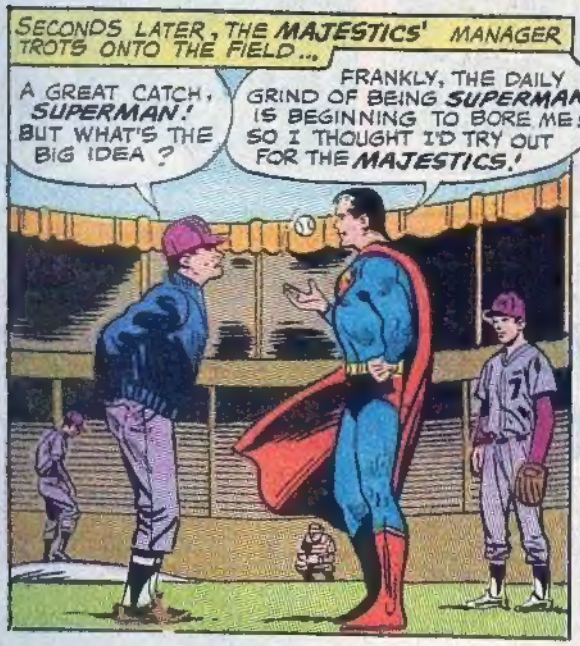
ONE DAY, AS CLARK (SUPERMAN) KENT COVERS A STORY...
HOME OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONS OF BASEBALL METROPOLIS MAJESTICS
THE MAJESTICS ARE ONLY HOLDING A PRACTICE SESSION TODAY! AS A NEWS EVENT, THAT WOULD BE STRICTLY DULLSVILLE!

BUT IN MY SECRET SUPERMAN IDENTITY, I'M ABOUT TO HIT THE HEADLINES WITH THE SPORTS SCOOP OF THE YEAR!


SECONDS LATER, AS A BATTER HITS A BLAZING LINE DRIVE...
A SURE DOUBLE!...
HOLY HALIBUT! WHAT'S THAT STREAKING ACROSS THE OUTFIELD?
CRA
WACKK!


SECONDS LATER, THE MAJESTICS' MANAGER TROTS ONTO THE FIELD...
A GREAT CATCH, SUPERMAN! BUT WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
FRANKLY, THE DAILY GRIND OF BEING SUPERMAN IS BEGINNING TO BORE ME! SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY OUT FOR THE MAJESTICS!

THIS HAS TO BE A PUBLICITY STUNT, BUT I'LL GO ALONG WITH THE GAG! HOWEVER, TO BE FAIR, YOU'LL HAVE TO TRY OUT LIKE ANY OTHER ROOKIE!... STEP INTO THE BATTER'S BOX!

BUT WITH SUPERMAN'S FIRST SWING...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SUPER-AIM? WE GAVE YOU OUR BIGGEST BAT, BUT YOU NEVER EVEN TOUCHED THE BALL!
WHAAAAPP!
SORRY! GUESS I SWUNG SO FAST AND HARD THE BALL BORED A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH MY BAT!
NOW I'VE SEEN EVERYTHING!
WHAT I NEED IS A BAT TOUGH ENOUGH TO TAKE MY MIGHTIEST SWING! AH--I SEE JUST WHAT I NEED!
THE BAMBINO SWUNG THE MIGHTIEST BAT OF THEM ALL! I'LL REMOVE THIS BRONZE REPLICA WITH MY HEAT VISION. THEN, AFTER ONE SWING, I'LL RE-WELD IT IN PLACE!
IN MEMORY OF THE IMMORTAL SULTAN OF SWAT BABE RUTH 1895 — 1948
THE PITCHER LETS GO, AND, WITH A MIGHTY SUPER-CLOUT...
WHAMMO!
WOW! WHAT A BLAST! SUPERMAN SLAMMED THAT BALL SO HARD THE FRICTION OF THE AIR SET IT AFIRE!
3

THEN... AND NOW I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU MY STUFF AS A PITCHER!
SPEAKING OF PITCHING... WOULD YOU MIND LETTING ME HAVE THAT BALL FOR A MINUTE, SUPERMAN?
MY NEPHEW, RONNIE, WAS WATCHING US PRACTICE. HE'S A LITTLE LEAGUE HURLER... I JUST PROMISED HE COULD PITCH AGAINST YOU!
ME BAT AGAINST A MERE KID? WELL... ER... OKAY!
WHY IS SUPERMAN SUDDENLY SO NERVOUS?
THE SURPRISING ANSWER COMES MOMENTS LATER, AS...
WHOOOSHHH!
WHIFFF
FANTASTIC! THE KID HAS SUPERMAN PSYCHED! HE STRUCK OUT ON THREE PITCHES!
ZIPPP!
HE'S JUST BEING NICE TO THE LAD!
BUT...
HERE... LET ME SEE THAT BALL!
GONNA LET RONNIE HAVE IT AS A SOUVENIR, SUPERMAN?
BAH! IT WAS JUST DUMB LUCK!
WHAT A GROUCH! HE'S THROWING THE BALL AWAY BECAUSE HE'S ASHAMED OF BEING STRUCK OUT BY A BOY!

SORRY, I'VE HAD SECOND THOUGHTS! BASEBALL JUST WOULDN'T BE INTERESTING ENOUGH. I'VE DECIDED TO LOOK FOR A MORE CHALLENGING SPORT!
HA, HA! OF ALL THE PHONEY EXCUSES!
LATER, BACK AT THE DAILY PLANET...
BUT, CLARK... WHY WOULD SUPERMAN GIVE UP HIS CRIME-BUSTING CAREER FOR SPORTS?
MAYBE HE'S GETTING TIRED OF THE RAT-RACE... OR RACKET-RACE. EVERYONE NEEDS A CHANGE NOW AND THEN!
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN SEEKS SPORTS CAREER! SCORNS BASEBALL AFTER STRIKE-OUT BY BOY PITCHER.
WHERE'S HIS SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY? WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WORLD WHEN SUPERMAN STARTS GOOFING OFF? HMM... WONDER WHAT SPORT HE'S GOING TO TRY NEXT?
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION.
NEXT DAY, AT A BRITISH STADIUM...
YES, COACH, I'VE BEEN PRACTICING SOCCER ON MY OWN. I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT FOR YOUR TEAM!
SPLENDID! AND IF YOU MAKE GOOD, IT MAY POPULARIZE SOCCER IN YOUR HOME COUNTRY, AMERICA. I'LL TEST YOU AGAINST OUR ENTIRE TEAM!
THEN, IN A FANTASTIC DISPLAY OF PASSING...
INCREDIBLE! SUPERMAN IS USING ONLY HIS HEAD AND FEET, ACCORDING TO THE RULES... BUT HE'S SLICING THROUGH OUR DEFENSE LIKE A SHAVER THROUGH WHISKERS ON A TELLY COMMERCIAL!

AT LAST, THE CLIMAX!
TERRIFIC! SUPERMAN BUTTED THAT BALL SO HARD IT RIPPED OUT THE GOAL-NET! AND IT'S STILL GOING UP, UP AND AWAY!
WHAMMO!
HERE'S YOUR CONTRACT! NAME YOUR OWN SALARY! JUST SIGN HERE, SUPERMAN! THE FANS WILL PAY A FORTUNE TO SEE AN EXHIBITION LIKE THAT!
FORGET IT! SOCCER ISN'T MY THING! IT'S TOO EASY!
THAT AFTERNOON, AT THE DAILY PLANET...
AND NOW IT'S BOXING. FOR PETE'S SAKE, WHAT'S BUGGING THAT GUY?
THE WIRE SERVICE REPORTS SUPERMAN IS SETTING UP A TRAINING CAMP AT GREENTREES RESORT! I THINK I'LL GO UP AND INTERVIEW HIM!
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN REJECTS SOCCER CONTRACT... ISSUES CHALLENGE TO HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMP!
NEXT DAY, AT THE TRAINING CAMP...
KRUNCH!
KLANK!
ULP! SUPERMAN INSISTS THAT ALL HIS SPARRING PARTNERS WEAR STEEL ARMOR! AND YET, EVEN A LIGHT TAP OF HIS HEAVILY PADDED GLOVE IS ENOUGH FOR A KAYO!
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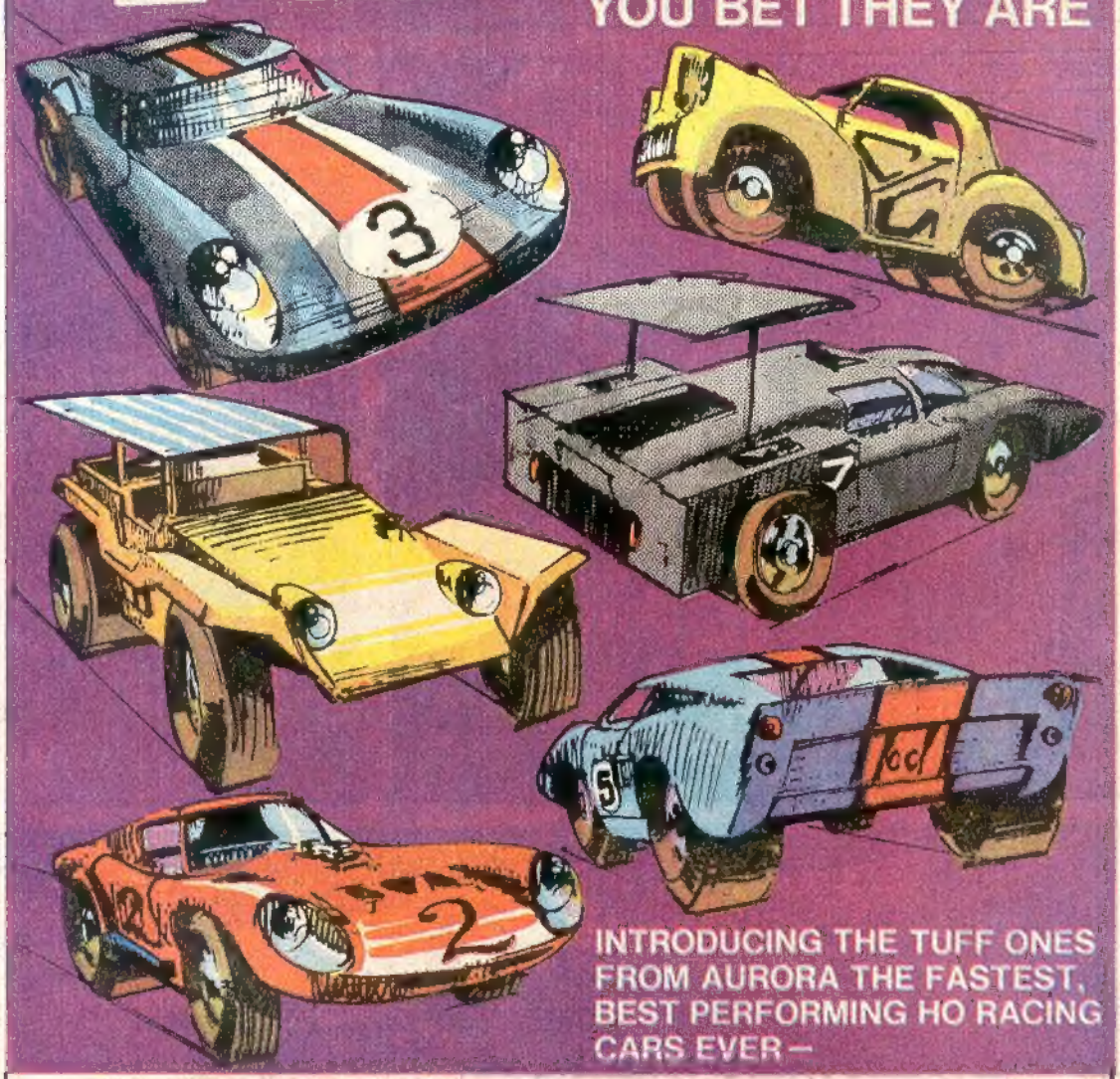
Tuff!

YOU BET THEY ARE



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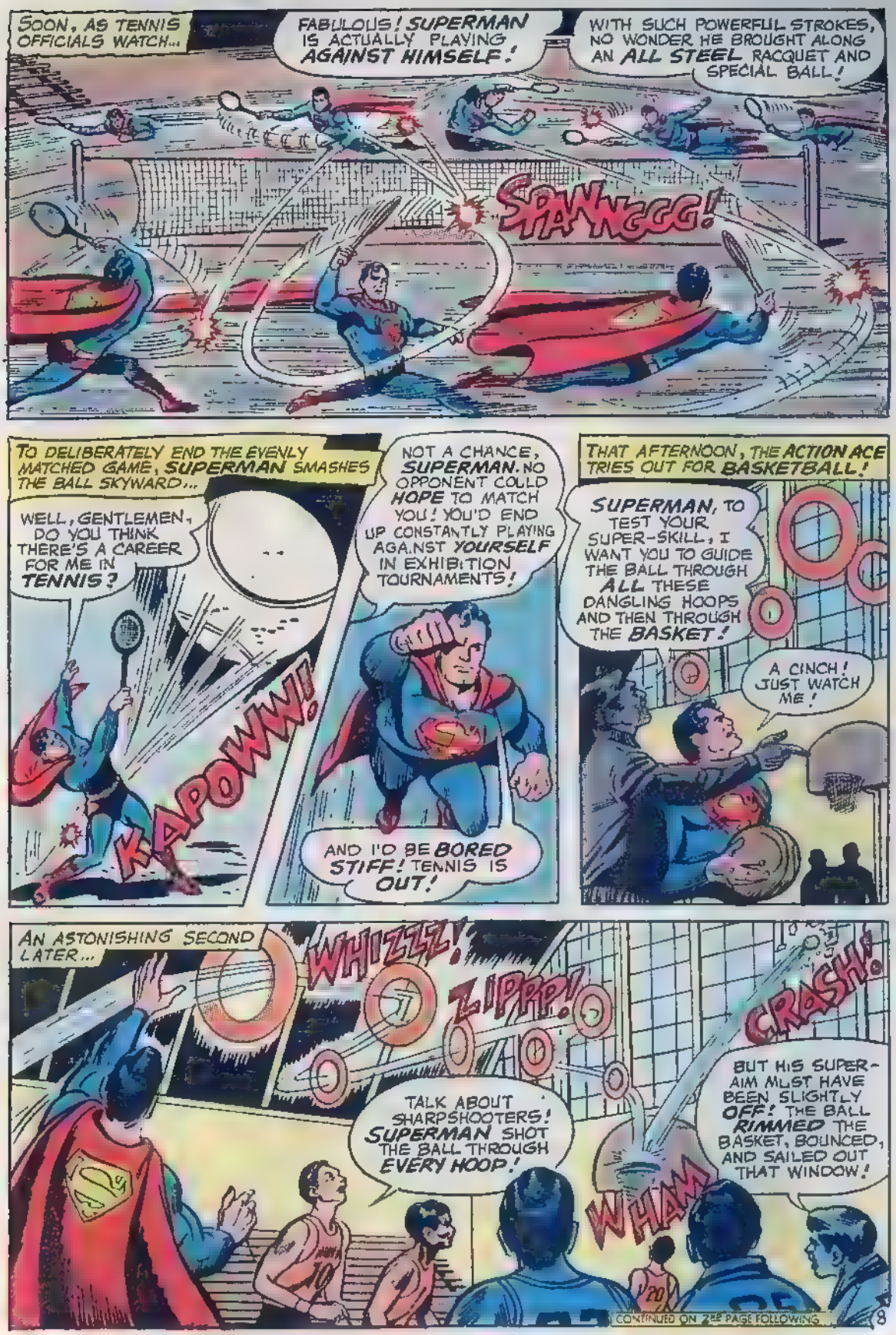
LATER, IN A PUBLIC INTERVIEW...
SUPERMAN, I DON'T DIG THIS GLORY-HUNTING SPORTS KICK OF YOURS! AREN'T YOU SATISFIED WITH BEING EARTH'S GREATEST HERO?
SO YOU THINK I'M LOOKING FOR HERO WORSHIP! WHAT ABOUT THE TIRESOME, ENDLESS HOURS...ALWAYS ON THE ALERT AS EARTH'S GUARDIAN?
KAPOW!
WHY ME? WHO SAYS I HAVE TO SPEND MY DAYS AND NIGHTS WORRYING ABOUT CRIMES, CATASTROPHES AND DISASTERS? I'M ENTITLED TO PICK MY OWN CAREER! AND NO ONE'S GOING TO STOP ME!
NEXT MOMENT...
SUPERMAN! YOU BLASTED THAT PUNCHING BAG RIGHT INTO SPACE! SUPPOSE YOU HIT AN OPPONENT WITH A PUNCH LIKE THAT?
HE'S RIGHT, SUPERMAN! YOUR HANDS ARE DEADLY WEAPONS! IF YOU EVER LOST YOUR TEMPER IN THE RING...
I GET THE PICTURE, I'LL HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON A HARMLESS SPORT! GOODBYE FOR NOW, JIMMY!
SUPERMAN, TAKE MY ADVICE AND GET DOWN TO EARTH! GIVE UP THIS WHACKY SPORTS KICK OF YOURS!
BUT THAT VERY AFTERNOON...
THERE'S THE FOREST HILLS TENNIS STADIUM, NOW! LET'S SEE HOW I MAKE OUT THIS TIME AS A SUPER-CHAMP!


SOON, AS TENNIS OFFICIALS WATCH...
FABULOUS! SUPERMAN IS ACTUALLY PLAYING AGAINST HIMSELF!
WITH SUCH POWERFUL STROKES, NO WONDER HE BROUGHT ALONG AN ALL STEEL RACQUET AND SPECIAL BALL!
SPANNGGG!
TO DELIBERATELY END THE EVENLY MATCHED GAME, SUPERMAN SMASHES THE BALL SKYWARD...
WELL, GENTLEMEN, DO YOU THINK THERE'S A CAREER FOR ME IN TENNIS?
KAPOWW!
NOT A CHANCE, SUPERMAN. NO OPPONENT COULD HOPE TO MATCH YOU! YOU'D END UP CONSTANTLY PLAYING AGAINST YOURSELF IN EXHIBITION TOURNAMENTS!
AND I'D BE BORED STIFF! TENNIS IS OUT!
THAT AFTERNOON, THE ACTION ACE TRIES OUT FOR BASKETBALL!
SUPERMAN, TO TEST YOUR SUPER-SKILL, I WANT YOU TO GUIDE THE BALL THROUGH ALL THESE DANGLING HOOPS AND THEN THROUGH THE BASKET!
A CINCH! JUST WATCH ME!
AN ASTONISHING SECOND LATER...
WHIZZZ!
ZIPPP!
CRASH!
TALK ABOUT SHARPSHOOTERS! SUPERMAN SHOT THE BALL THROUGH EVERY HOOP!
BUT HIS SUPER-AIM MUST HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY OFF! THE BALL RIMMED THE BASKET, BOUNCED, AND SAILED OUT THAT WINDOW!
WHAM
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

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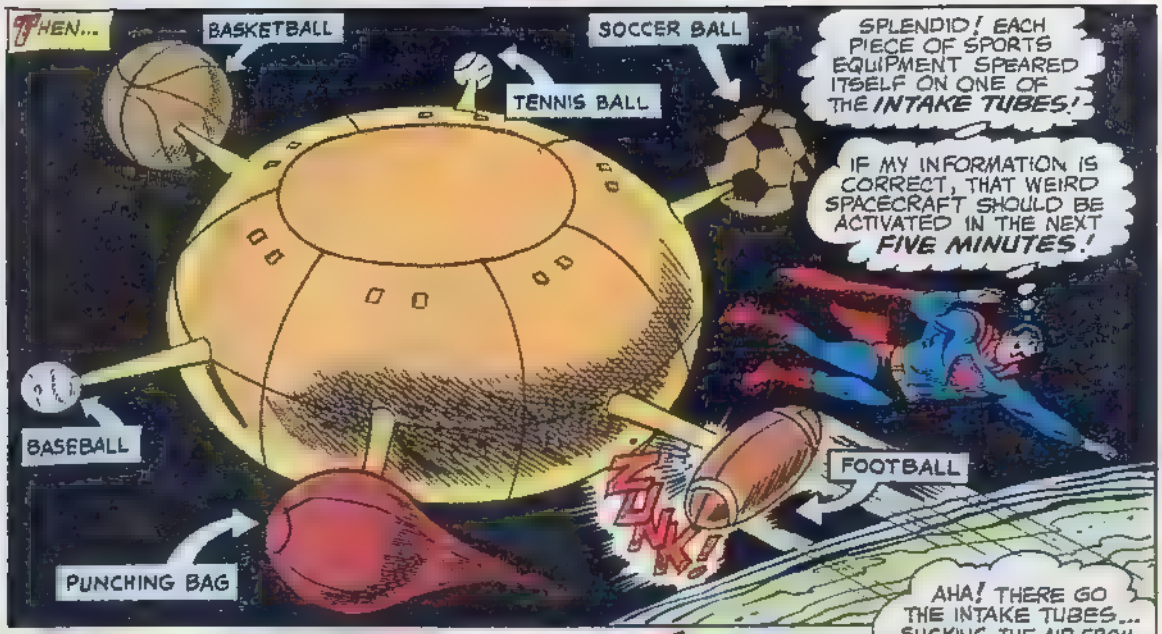
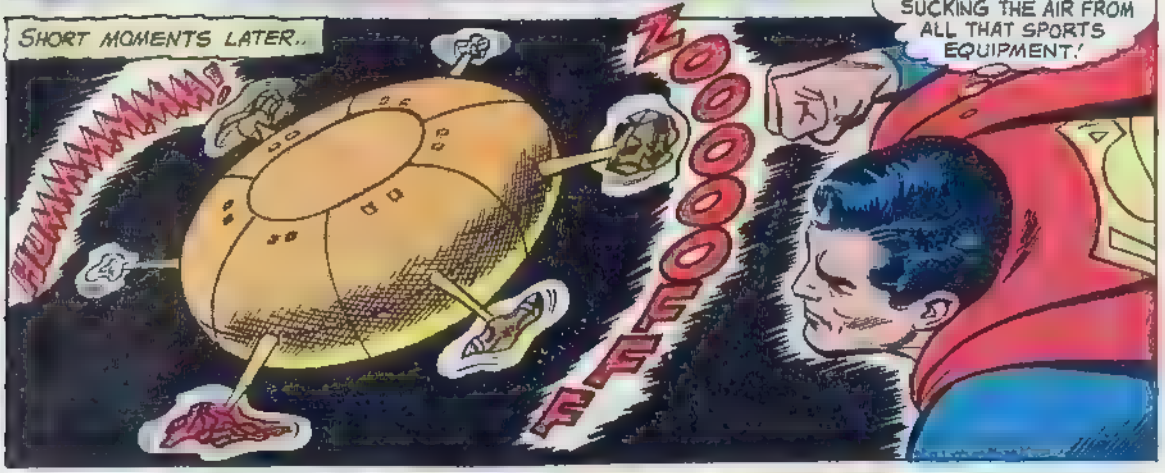
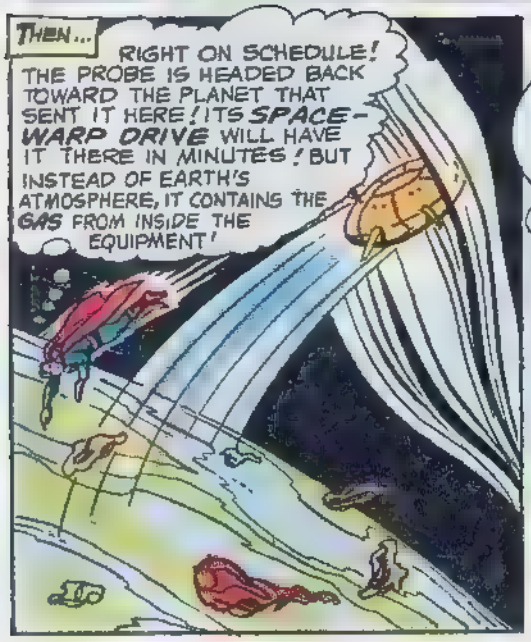
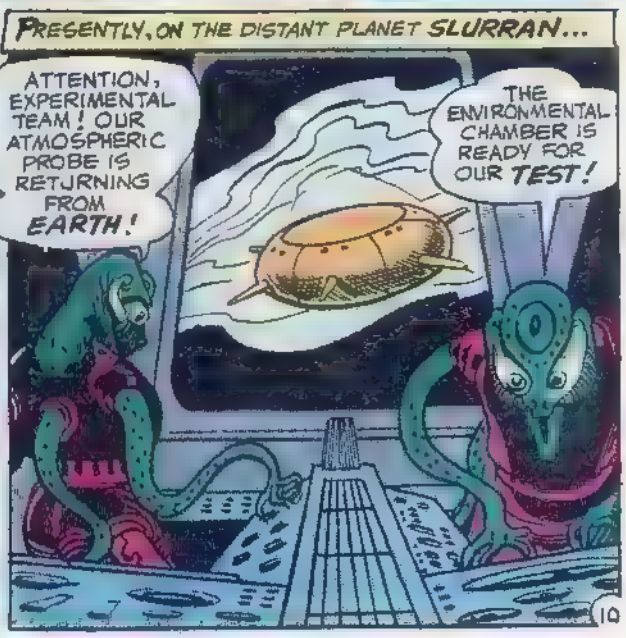
TERRIFIC, SUPERMAN! BUT THE PLAYERS ARE AFRAID YOU'D MAKE MONKEYS OUT OF THEM ON THE COURT!
IT FIGURES! GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP SEARCHING FOR A SPORT THAT CAN USE MY TALENTS!
SOON, AT A BIG-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FIELD...
SUPERMAN, I WANT YOU TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR KICKING ABILITY BY BOOTING THOSE BALLS OVER THE GOAL POSTS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE FIELD!
ASK ME SOMETHING HARD, COACH!
AS THE STUNNED PLAYERS WATCH...
WOW! THOSE PIGSKINS ARE TAKING OFF LIKE GUIDED MISSILES! THEY'RE GOING, GOING, GONE!
50 FIELD GOALS IN 3 SECONDS FLAT... AND HE'S NOT EVEN WINDED!
POW
BOFFF!
KAPLUNK!
JUST THEN.
SUPERMAN. COME BACK! LET'S TALK CONTRACT!
SORRY. I'VE CHANGED MY MIND!
EXCELLENT! ONE FOOTBALL IS HEADING FOR SPACE, EXACTLY AS I AIMED IT!
HIGH ABOVE, ON THE EDGE OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.
ON TARGET! BUT I'D BETTER AVOID THAT SPACECRAFT. MY X-RAY VISION CONFIRMS IT'S BOOBY-TRAPPED TO EXPLODE WITH EARTH-SHATTERING FORCE IF APPROACHED BY ANY HUMAN... OR SUPER-HUMAN!


THEN...
BASKETBALL
SOCCER BALL
TENNIS BALL
SPLENDID! EACH PIECE OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT SPEARED ITSELF ON ONE OF THE INTAKE TUBES!
IF MY INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THAT WEIRD SPACECRAFT SHOULD BE ACTIVATED IN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES!
BASEBALL
FOOTBALL
PUNCHING BAG
ZUNK!


SHORT MOMENTS LATER..
AHA! THERE GO THE INTAKE TUBES... SUCKING THE AIR FROM ALL THAT SPORTS EQUIPMENT!
WHUMMMMMMMM!
WOOOOOOFFFF


THEN...
RIGHT ON SCHEDULE! THE PROBE IS HEADED BACK TOWARD THE PLANET THAT SENT IT HERE! ITS SPACE-WARP DRIVE WILL HAVE IT THERE IN MINUTES! BUT INSTEAD OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE, IT CONTAINS THE GAS FROM INSIDE THE EQUIPMENT!


PRESENTLY, ON THE DISTANT PLANET SLURRAN...
ATTENTION, EXPERIMENTAL TEAM! OUR ATMOSPHERIC PROBE IS RETURNING FROM EARTH!
THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER IS READY FOR OUR TEST!

GUIDE THE PROBE INTO THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER AND RELEASE ITS ATMOSPHERIC SAMPLES!
IF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE DOES NOT HARM OUR FLORA AND FAUNA, THEN WE SLURRANS CAN INVADE EARTH, CONQUER IT WITH OUR SUPER-WEAPONS, AND ADD IT TO OUR EMPIRE!
WHUSHHHH!
SECONDS LATER...
LOOK! EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE IS TURNING OUR JEWEL-BIRD INTO AN UGLY BLOB-CREATURE! THE FEATHERED RANX IS BECOMING AN INSECT!
AND THE YLLU VINE HAS BECOME A MEAT-EATER!
AS SUPERMAN WATCHES VIA TELESCOPIC VISION
EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE WOULD METAMORPHOSE OUR SLURRAN LIFE FORMS INTO HORRIBLE MUTANTS. EARTH IS OFF LIMITS FOR CONQUEST!
JUST WHAT I HOPED FOR!
LATER, IN SUPERMAN'S ARCTIC CITADEL...
EARTH IS ENTITLED TO KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND THAT STRANGE SPORTS CRAZE WHICH SEEMED TO BE AFFECTING ME. I'LL RECORD THE FACTS FOR MY TAPED ARCHIVES, TO BE OPENED A CENTURY AFTER MY DEATH.

IT WAS SEVERAL DAYS AGO THAT I FIRST SPOTTED THE SLURRAN PROBE.
GULP!! THE GALACTOPOL* WARNED ME THAT SLURRANS SEND THESE PROBES TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE TARGETS FOR CONQUEST!
*INTER-GALACTIC POLICE — ED.
"SINCE THESE PROBES ARE ALWAYS ACTIVATED 72 HOURS AFTER ENTERING ORBIT, I HAD TIME TO DEVISE A COUNTER-STRATEGY..."
THE PROBE WILL BLAST EARTH TO COSMIC DUST IF I USE SUPER-FORCE AGAINST IT! BUT I CAN OUTWIT THE SLURRANS WITH THIS MUTATION GAS I INVENTED! AT SUPER-SPEED, I CAN SWITCH THESE ITEMS WITH THE REGULAR EQUIPMENT!
"SUSPECTING I MIGHT BE MONITORED, I USED MY 'SPORTS CAREER' EXCUSE TO PROPEL THE GAS-INFLATED SPORTS EQUIPMENT TOWARD THE PROBE INTAKES!"
LATER, AFTER SUPERMAN RETURNS TO HIS CLARK KENT IDENTITY...
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! SUPERMAN WAS SO SUPER-SKILLFUL IN ALL THOSE OTHER SPORTS, YET THAT KID, RONNIE, STRUCK HIM OUT!
IF JIMMY ONLY KNEW THE TRUTH!
"I WAS PLANNING TO, ACCIDENTALLY, PITCH A SPECIAL MUTATION-GAS-FILLED BASEBALL OUT TO THE PROBE, WHEN..."
... MIND LETTING ME HAVE THAT BALL, SUPERMAN? I PROMISED MY NEPHEW HE COULD PITCH AGAINST YOU.
"... JUST THEN, I NOTICED..."
GULP!! THE SEAMS ON THAT SPECIAL BASEBALL ARE UNRAVELING! GASP!! AND WHAT'S MORE, THE ENTIRE CASING BECAME DEFECTIVE WHEN I INJECTED THE GAS!

"I KNEW IF I HIT THE BALL, THE GAS MIGHT BE RELEASED..."
THE STUFF WOULD ONLY MUTATE SLURRAN LIFE FORMS, BUT IT MIGHT HARM EARTH LIFE IN OTHER WAYS! SO I HAVE TO STRIKE OUT!
13

TAKE A GIANT STEP...

TOWARD YOUR NEWSSTAND... FOR THIS COLOSSAL ISSUE!

The SUPERMAN LEGEND
I'M SUPERMAN'S ARCH-FOE, CRIMINAL SCIENTIST LEX LUTHOR! WE'VE BEEN ENEMIES SINCE WE WERE BOYS IN SMALLVILLE!
BRAINIAC IS MY NAME! I'M A SUPER-INTELLIGENT COMPUTER IN HUMAN FORM! IT WAS I WHO STOLE THE CITY OF KANDOR FROM KRYPTON, SHRUNK IT, AND PUT IT IN A BOTTLE!
I'M THE TOYMAN! I USE THE INGENIOUS TOYS I CREATE TO ROB... OR TO GET REVENGE ON SUPERMAN!
I'M CALLED THE PARASITE! I CAN ABSORB ENERGY FROM ANY SOURCE! MY AMBITION IS TO DRAIN OFF ALL SUPERMAN'S ENERGY... AND POWERS... INTO MY BODY!
CRIM
THEY CALL ME THE PUZZLER! GAMES AND PUZZLES ARE MY BAG... AND I USE THEM TO COMMIT CRIMES... AND CONFOUND SUPERMAN!
W-426

I'VE FOUGHT PLENTY OF TOUGH VILLAINS IN MY TIME, BUT THESE WERE PROBABLY THE TOUGHEST! THEY'RE THE TOP MEMBERS OF MY
ROGUES' GALLERY!
BANG
I'M KNOWN AS THE PRANKSTER! I USE PRACTICAL JOKES FOR CRIME! THERE'S NO GREATER JOKESTER...
...EXCEPT FOR ME... THE IMP FROM THE 5TH DIMENSION... MR. MXYZPTLK! I WANT TO PESTER SUPIE... SO NOTFOOT IT OUT OF HERE, PRANKSTER! HA, HA!
AND WE'RE THE PHANTOM ZONE VILLAINS! WE WERE CRIMINALS ON KRYPTON, SUPERMAN'S HOME WORLD! WE WERE PUNISHED BY BEING PROJECTED INTO THIS EERIE, TIMELESS DIMENSION! BUT IF WE CAN ESCAPE TO EARTH, WE GAIN THE SAME POWERS AS SUPERMAN! I'M JAX-UR!
I'M KRU-EL!
I AM GENERAL ZOD!
AND I'M PROFESSOR YAKOX!

TALES OF THE LEGION of SUPER-HEROES

YOU--- THE *LEGIONNAIRE* WHO DEFEATED ME AND SEPARATED MY ELECTRONIC *BRAIN* FROM MY ANDROID *BODY!* YOU'VE FALLEN INTO MY *TRAP!*

WHICH OF THESE *SUPER-HEROES* IS THE FOE AGAINST WHOM THIS ANDROID VILLAIN SEEKS REVENGE? IS IT *COSMIC BOY?*

...*SHRINKING VIOLET?*

...OR *CHEMICAL KING?*

READ ON...AND SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS THE IDENTITY OF...

THE MYSTERY LEGIONNAIRE!"

ONE STARTLING DAY, IN THE 30TH CENTURY, A *HEADLESS* FIGURE ROCKETS THROUGH SPACE AT TERRIFIC SPEED...

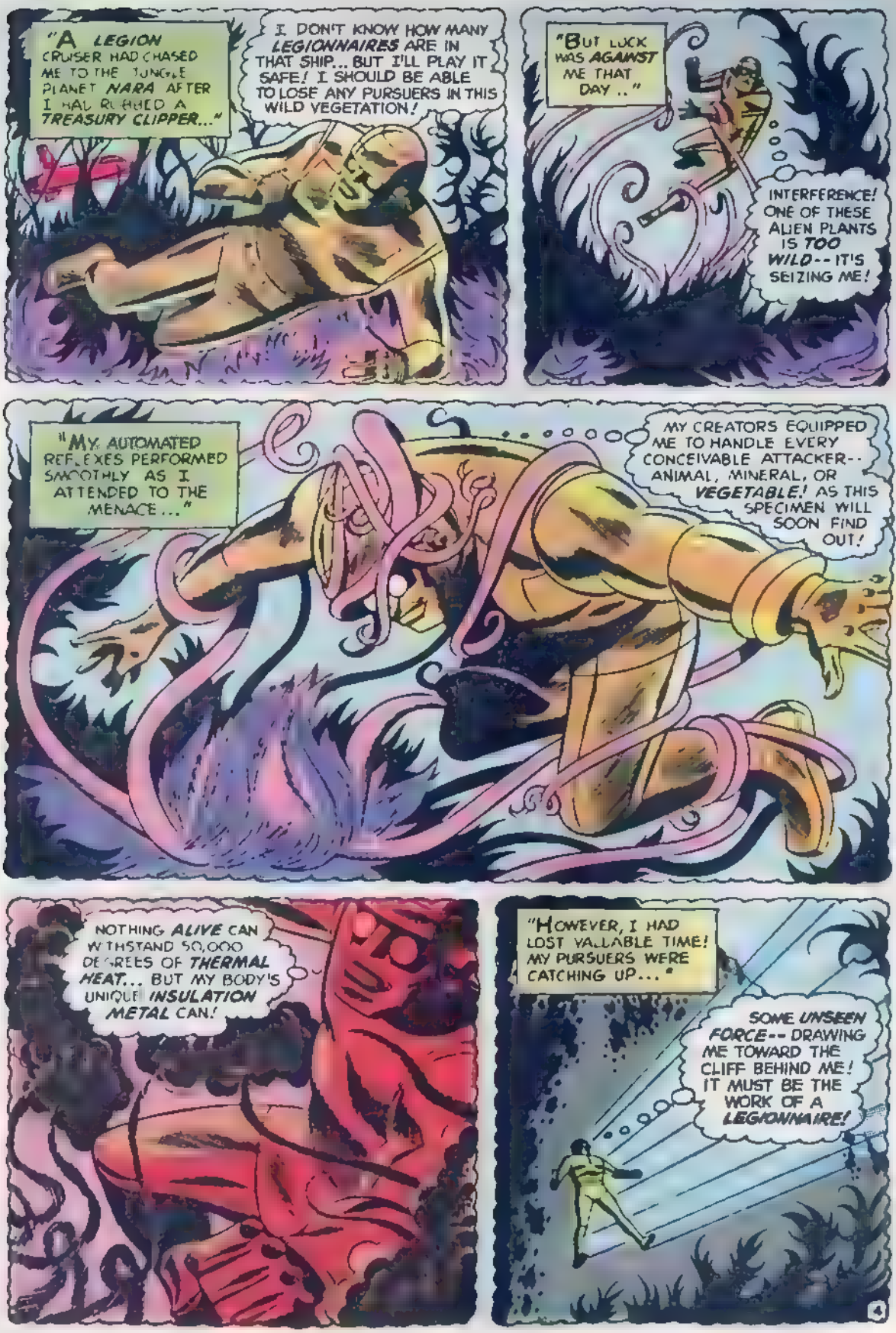
WHILE, OVER A MILLION MILES AWAY...

I, *KLIM*, WAS ONCE THE IDEAL *SYNTHETIC CRIMINAL*-- UNTIL MY PARTS WERE *SEPARATED!*

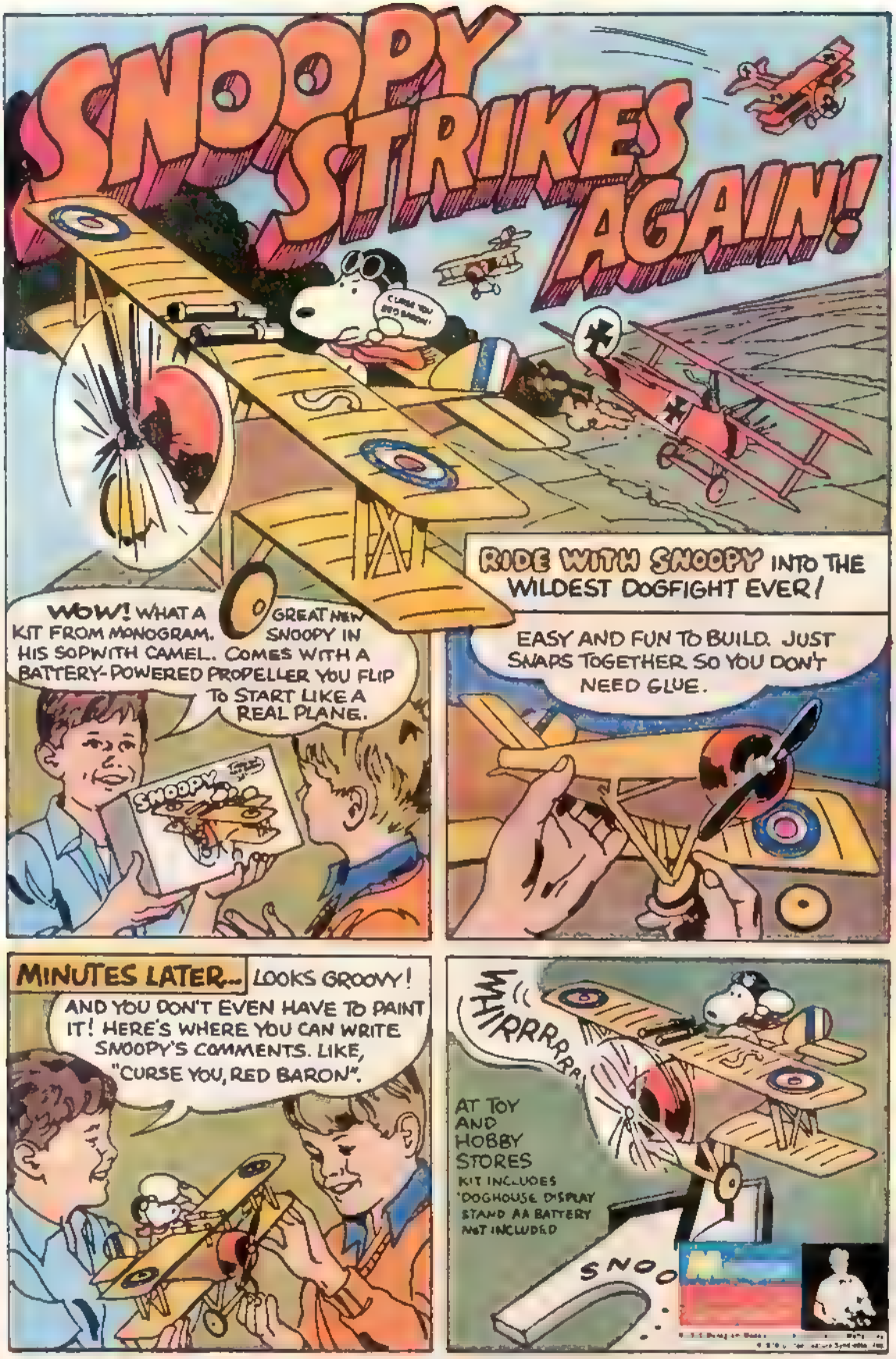
BUT NOW MY *ZUTRONIC BRAIN* IS SENDING OUT IMPULSES WHICH MY *BODY* IS FOLLOWING!

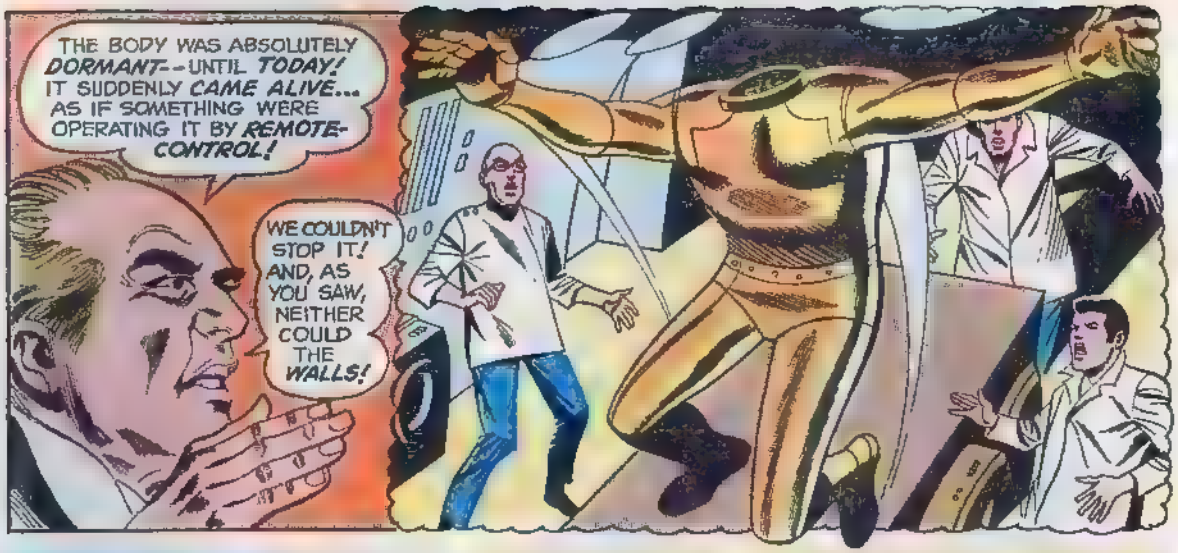
AS SOON AS I'M TOGETHER AGAIN--I'LL BE ABLE TO DESTROY THE ONE LEGIONNAIRE WHO RENDERED ME HELPLESS AND IMPRISONED MY BODY!
MEANWHILE, ACROSS THE GALAXY, AT LEGION HEADQUARTERS ON EARTH...
MOMENTS AGO, WE GOT WORD THAT KLIM'S BODY ESCAPED AND IS ON THE LOOSE--WHICH MEANS IT'S HEADING FOR HIS BRAIN!
IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE THE HEAD IS HIDDEN, CHEMICAL KING!
IT MAY BE A GOOD IDEA, SHRINKING VIOLET, TO REVIEW OUR VISI-TAPE ON THAT NO-GOOD!
KLIM CAME INTO BEING ON THE ASTEROID VORAN-4--THE SITE OF A UNIQUE PRISON FOR INTERPLANETARY CONVICTS WHO ARE HELPLESS TO ESCAPE!
ALPHATRON CRIMINAL CLINIC
THERE ARE NO GUARDS... NO HIDDEN BOOBY-TRAPS ...NO ENERGY-PULSE FENCES TO THWART ATTEMPTED GETAWAYS!
YET NO PRISONER CAN ESCAPE! THE VORAN CLINIC IS EXCLUSIVELY FOR HANDICAPPED VILLAINS... WHO PERMANENTLY DISABLED THEMSELVES WHILE COMMITTING CRIMES!
THEY CREATED KLIM!
2

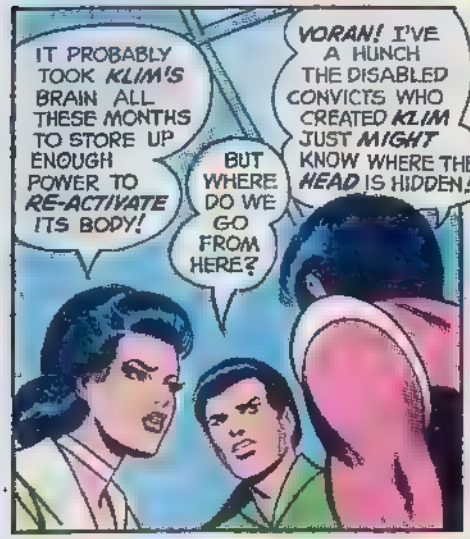
TO FIGHT OFF BOREDOM, FOUR MASTER CRIMINALS POOLED THEIR SCIENTIFIC GENIUS ...STOLE VARIOUS COMPONENTS FROM CLINIC EQUIPMENT...AND SECRETLY CONSTRUCTED AN INVINCIBLE ANDROID!
THE CONVICTS CREATED A PERFECT SYNTHETIC CRIMINAL! ALTHOUGH THEIR HANDICAPS PREVENTED THEM FROM COMMITTING THEIR OWN CRIMES... THE VILLAINS HAD KLIM PULL THE JOBS FOR THEM!
AND THE SUPER-EQUIPPED ANDROID SOON BECAME AN INTERPLANETARY THIEF WHO COULD ELUDE THE LAW ANYWHERE IN THE GALAXY!
UNTIL THE DAY KLIM ENCOUNTERED A TEAM OF LEGIONNAIRES...
AS THE PICTURE ON THE SCREEN ABRUPTLY FADES...
WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!
RIGHT, COSMIC BOY! AND THERE'S NO NEED TO NOTIFY THE OTHER MEMBERS ABOUT THIS! KLIM IS OUR AFFAIR!
CHECK, CHEM! SO WHAT'S OUR FIRST MOVE?
STOP NUMBER ONE WILL BE SECURITY STATION 2.7, WHERE KLIM'S AMAZING ANDROID BODY WAS UNDER OBSERVATION BY SCIENTISTS!
MY BODY IS STILL COMING TO ME, FOLLOWING THE INVISIBLE IMPULSE-TRAIL! SOON I'LL BE ABLE TO SEEK OUT AND DESTROY THE ONE WHO DECAPITATED ME!
THAT DAY WILL ALWAYS LIVE IN MY MEMORY CIRCUITS...
3

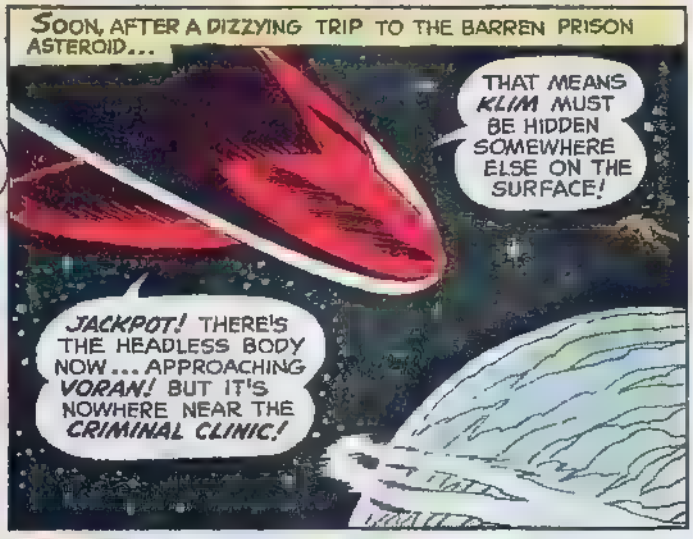

"A LEGION CRUISER HAD CHASED ME TO THE JUNGLE PLANET NARA AFTER I HAD ROBBED A TREASURY CLIPPER..."
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY LEGIONNAIRES ARE IN THAT SHIP... BUT I'LL PLAY IT SAFE! I SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOSE ANY PURSUERS IN THIS WILD VEGETATION!
"BUT LUCK WAS AGAINST ME THAT DAY.."
INTERFERENCE! ONE OF THESE ALIEN PLANTS IS TOO WILD-- IT'S SEIZING ME!
"MY AUTOMATED REFLEXES PERFORMED SMOOTHLY AS I ATTENDED TO THE MENACE..."
MY CREATORS EQUIPPED ME TO HANDLE EVERY CONCEIVABLE ATTACKER-- ANIMAL, MINERAL, OR VEGETABLE! AS THIS SPECIMEN WILL SOON FIND OUT!
NOTHING ALIVE CAN WITHSTAND 50,000 DEGREES OF THERMAL HEAT... BUT MY BODY'S UNIQUE INSULATION METAL CAN!
"HOWEVER, I HAD LOST VALUABLE TIME! MY PURSUERS WERE CATCHING UP..."
SOME UNSEEN FORCE-- DRAWING ME TOWARD THE CLIFF BEHIND ME! IT MUST BE THE WORK OF A LEGIONNAIRE!

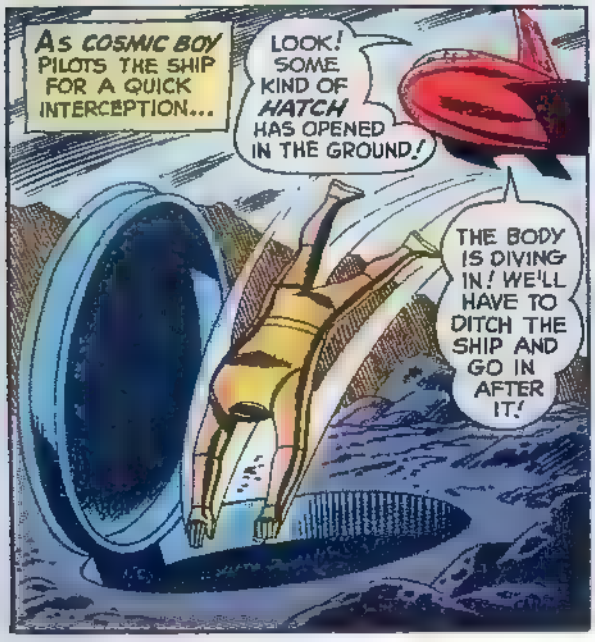
"I WAS PINNED TO SOLID ROCK--HELPLESS AGAINST THE NEXT ATTACK..."
NOW THE VERY AIR AROUND MY BODY HAS BEEN TURNED TO LIQUID OXYGEN! ALL MY MECHANICAL COMPONENTS ARE FROZEN SOLID!
"AND THEN CAME THE CRUSHING FINAL ASSAULT..."
IF HE THINKS THIS HAS PUT KLIM OUT OF ACTION--HE'S MISTAKEN!
WHAT HUMILIATION! A LEGIONNAIRE ACTUALLY HAD THE NERVE TO BEHEAD ME!
"THANKS TO THE GENIUS OF MY CREATORS, MY HEAD WAS CONCEIVED AS A SEPARATE UNIT--ABLE TO FUNCTION TEMPORARILY ON ITS OWN..."
SO YOU ARE THE LEGIONNAIRE WHO DID THIS TO ME! I VOW TO RETURN SOME DAY AND DESTROY YOU UTTERLY!
NOT IF I CAPTURE YOU FIRST, KLIM!
"THAT HERO TRIED TO APPREHEND ME--BUT THE EMERGENCY PROPULSO-JETS IN MY EYES PROVED FASTER THAN HIS FLIGHT-RING..."
HA! AT THIS SPEED I'M PUTTING MILES BETWEEN ME AND THAT DO-GOODER!
I'LL HAVE JUST ENOUGH POWER TO REACH THE SECRET CONCEALMENT CUBE I PROVIDED FOR MYSELF! THERE, NO ONE CAN FIND ME!
I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH MOST OF THE LEGION MEMBERS! BUT I CAN NEVER FORGET THE FACE AND COSTUME OF THE LEGIONNAIRE WHO DISABLED ME... THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME!
MEANWHILE...
IT ALL HAPPENED IN A MATTER OF SECONDS! AS YOU THREE KNOW, WE'D BEEN BUSY EXAMINING KLIM'S BODY... TRYING TO LEARN THE SECRETS OF ITS REMARKABLE INSULATION METAL SKIN...
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
5

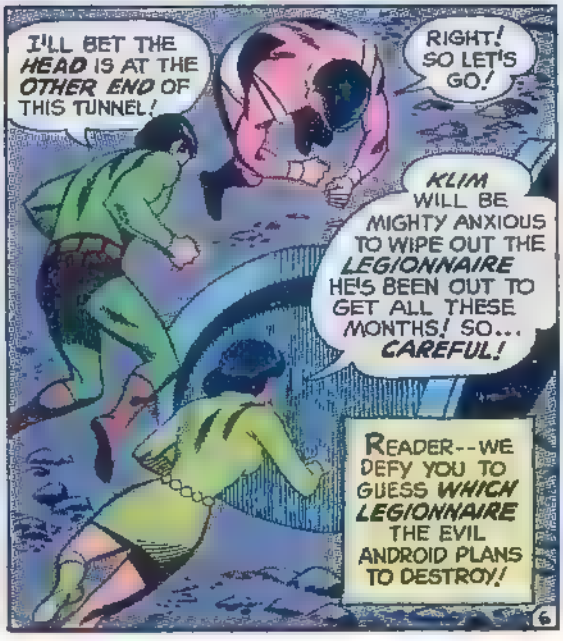

SNOOPY STRIKES AGAIN!
CURSE YOU RED BARON!
RIDE WITH SNOOPY INTO THE WILDEST DOGFIGHT EVER!
WOW! WHAT A KIT FROM MONOGRAM. GREAT NEW SNOOPY IN HIS SOPWITH CAMEL. COMES WITH A BATTERY-POWERED PROPELLER YOU FLIP TO START LIKE A REAL PLANE.
SNOOPY
EASY AND FUN TO BUILD. JUST SNAPS TOGETHER. SO YOU DON'T NEED GLUE.
MINUTES LATER... LOOKS GROOVY!
AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO PAINT IT! HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN WRITE SNOOPY'S COMMENTS. LIKE, "CURSE YOU, RED BARON".
WHIRRRRRR
AT TOY AND HOBBY STORES
KIT INCLUDES DOGHOUSE DISPLAY STAND AA BATTERY NOT INCLUDED
SNOO


THE BODY WAS ABSOLUTELY DORMANT--UNTIL TODAY! IT SUDDENLY CAME ALIVE... AS IF SOMETHING WERE OPERATING IT BY REMOTE-CONTROL!
WE COULDN'T STOP IT! AND, AS YOU SAW, NEITHER COULD THE WALLS!


IT PROBABLY TOOK KLIM'S BRAIN ALL THESE MONTHS TO STORE UP ENOUGH POWER TO RE-ACTIVATE ITS BODY!
BUT WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
VORAN! I'VE A HUNCH THE DISABLED CONVICTS WHO CREATED KLIM JUST MIGHT KNOW WHERE THE HEAD IS HIDDEN!


SOON, AFTER A DIZZYING TRIP TO THE BARREN PRISON ASTEROID...
THAT MEANS KLIM MUST BE HIDDEN SOMEWHERE ELSE ON THE SURFACE!
JACKPOT! THERE'S THE HEADLESS BODY NOW... APPROACHING VORAN! BUT IT'S NOWHERE NEAR THE CRIMINAL CLINIC!


AS COSMIC BOY PILOTS THE SHIP FOR A QUICK INTERCEPTION...
LOOK! SOME KIND OF HATCH HAS OPENED IN THE GROUND!
THE BODY IS DIVING IN! WE'LL HAVE TO DITCH THE SHIP AND GO IN AFTER IT!


I'LL BET THE HEAD IS AT THE OTHER END OF THIS TUNNEL!
RIGHT! SO LET'S GO!
KLIM WILL BE MIGHTY ANXIOUS TO WIPE OUT THE LEGIONNAIRE HE'S BEEN OUT TO GET ALL THESE MONTHS! SO... CAREFUL!
READER--WE DEFY YOU TO GUESS WHICH LEGIONNAIRE THE EVIL ANDROID PLANS TO DESTROY!

DOWN INTO THE ABYSS PLUMMETS THE HEADLESS ANDROID... AND THE PASSING BODY SETS OFF AN AUTOMATIC SWITCH!
NOT FAR BEHIND HIM COME THE THREE SUPER-HEROES...
LOOK AHEAD! THIS TUNNEL GOES ON FOR MILES!
MAYBE EVEN AS FAR AS THE ASTEROID'S CORE!
LESS TALK AND MORE SPEED, TEAM! THAT KLIM IS FAST!
SO THE HEROES PASS THE TINY SWITCH-- AND, WITHOUT WARNING...
WATCH IT! THOSE POWERFUL WEB-VINES SUDDENLY SHOT OUT FROM THE WALLS! IT'S A TRAP TO CATCH PURSUERS!
I READ YOU, COS!
WE CAN'T GET THROUGH THOSE THINGS...BUT YOU CAN, VIOLET!
A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, THE MINIATURE MISS IS DARTING AHEAD...
KEEP GOING! CHEM AND I WILL TRY TO CATCH UP WITH YOU SOON!
AS THE LEGION LADS TRY TO BREAK THROUGH THE WEB-LIKE PLANT...
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS YOUR BATTLE, CHEM! WE'RE BOTH STUCK TO THESE VINES...AND MY SUPER-MAGNETIC POWERS WON'T DO US ANY GOOD HERE!
CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING
7

MAKE A MOON CREATURE....

MADE IN U.S.A.

MOON-BLOB

with Moonglow

Just Add Water

$1.50 PLUS POST PAID

- IT ACTS ALIVE
- LOOKS LIKE PROTOPLASM
- IT'S A PLASTIC/LIQUID MOON CREATURE
- DEFIES GRAVITY
- CRAWLS OUT OF CONTAINERS
- DIVIDES INTO SMALLER BLOBS
- FREEZE IT-PUT IT INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION
- LIVES INDEFINITELY FROZEN
- COMPLETELY HARMLESS

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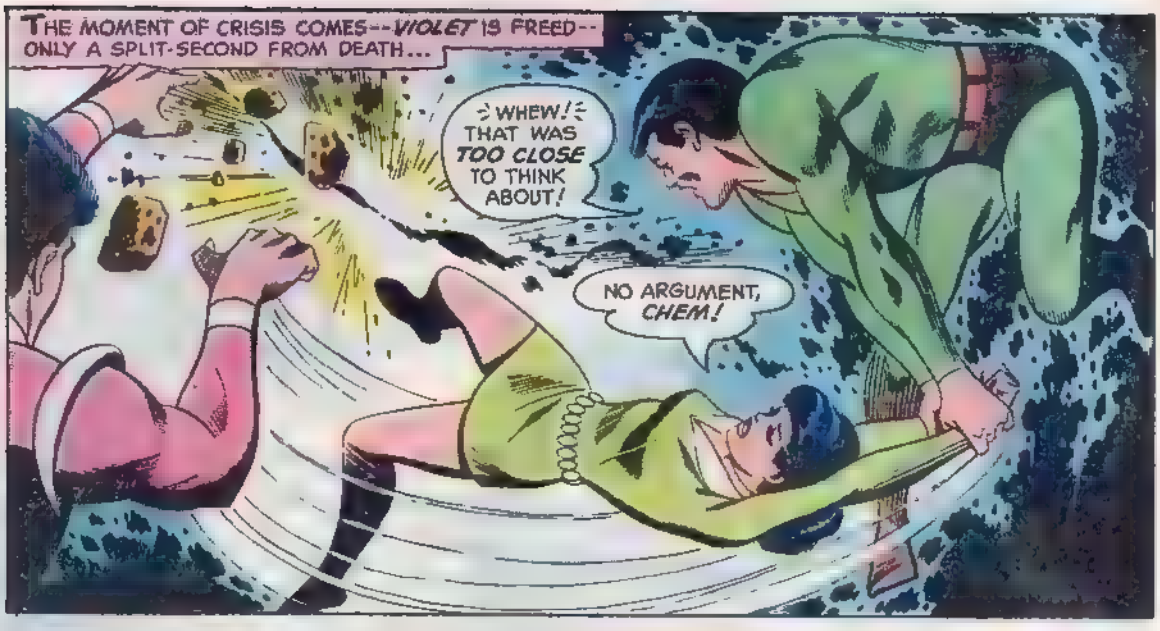
P.O. BOX 397
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11571

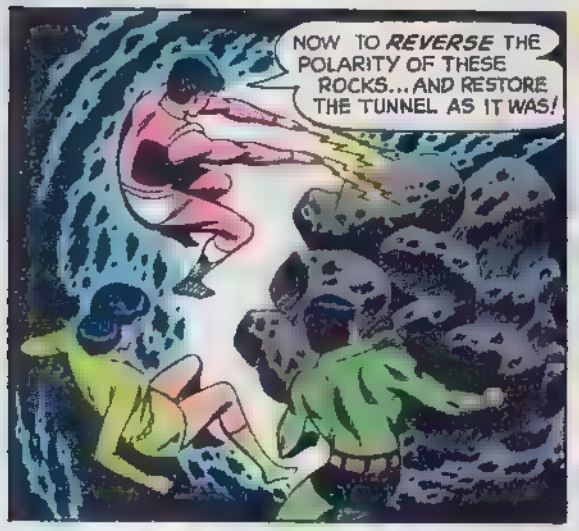
PLEASE RUSH ME ____ ORDER(S) OF MOON-BLOB AT $1.50 EACH. I HAVE ENCLOSED ____ TO COVER THE COST OF EACH SET ORDERED.
(SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. NO C.O.D'S)

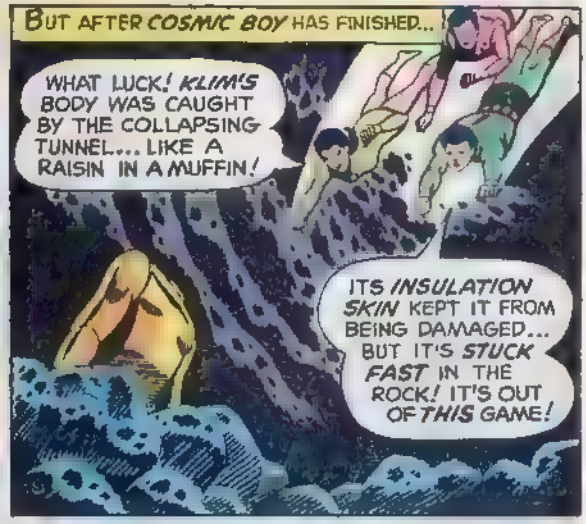
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP ____

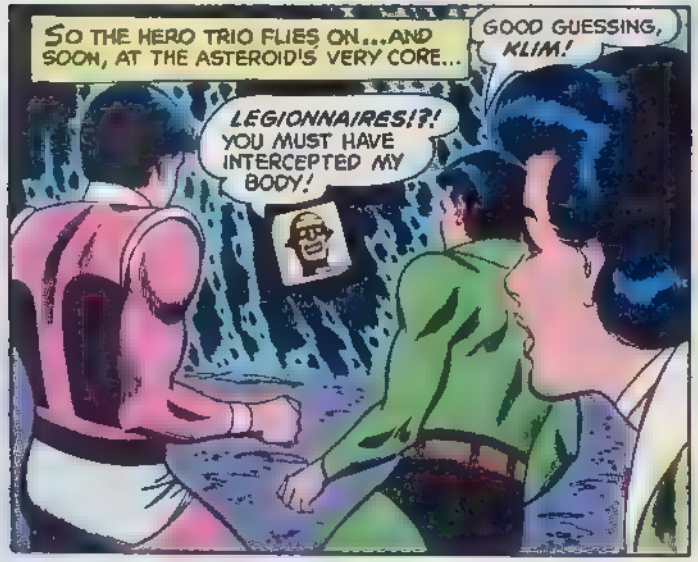
CANADIAN AND FOREIGN ORDERS $1.85 INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER.

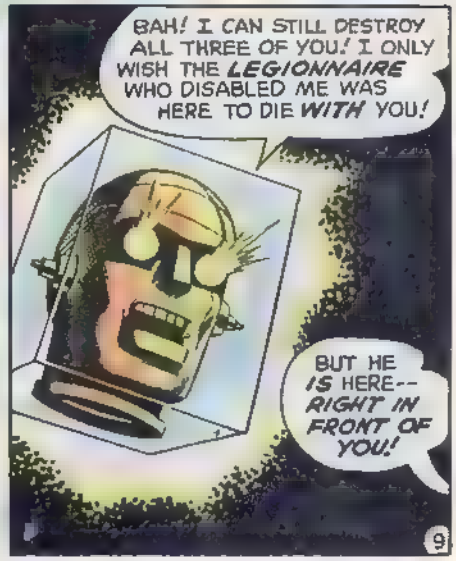
SWIFTLY, THE KING'S AMAZING CHEMICAL REACTION POWER DOES ITS THING...
NO PLANTS CAN WITHSTAND FIRE! AND THAT'S A CHEMICAL ACTION... NAMELY, OXIDATION!
MEANWHILE, KLIM IS UNAWARE HIS LOCATION IS BEING TRACED...
MY BODY IS PRICELESS TO ME... THERE IS NO WAY ITS PRECIOUS INSULATION METAL CAN BE DUPLICATED! IT SHOULD BE HALFWAY DOWN THE TUNNEL BY NOW!
SIZZLING STARS! SOME KIND OF FORCE-BEAM HAS IMMOBILIZED VIOLET!
MUST BE ANOTHER OF KLIM'S LITTLE BOOBY-TRAPS!
IF WE GO ANY FURTHER, IT'S A SURE BET WE'LL GET STUCK IN MID-AIR, TOO!
HMM... THOSE WALLS CONTAIN IRON ORE! I THINK I CAN THROW OFF THAT IMMOBILIZING-BEAM... BUT IT'LL BE RISKY!
SUMMONING UP HIS WILL POWER, COSMIC BOY TAKES ON AN AWESOME TASK...
ANY SECOND, THE WALLS WILL BE MAGNETIZED ENOUGH TO COLLAPSE TOGETHER!
CHEM, YOU MUST PULL VIOLET OUT--THE EXACT INSTANT THE BEAM RELEASES HER!
8


THE MOMENT OF CRISIS COMES--VIOLET IS FREED--ONLY A SPLIT-SECOND FROM DEATH...
WHEW! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE TO THINK ABOUT!
NO ARGUMENT, CHEM!


NOW TO REVERSE THE POLARITY OF THESE ROCKS... AND RESTORE THE TUNNEL AS IT WAS!


BUT AFTER COSMIC BOY HAS FINISHED...
WHAT LUCK! KLIM'S BODY WAS CAUGHT BY THE COLLAPSING TUNNEL... LIKE A RAISIN IN A MUFFIN!
ITS INSULATION SKIN KEPT IT FROM BEING DAMAGED... BUT IT'S STUCK FAST IN THE ROCK! IT'S OUT OF THIS GAME!

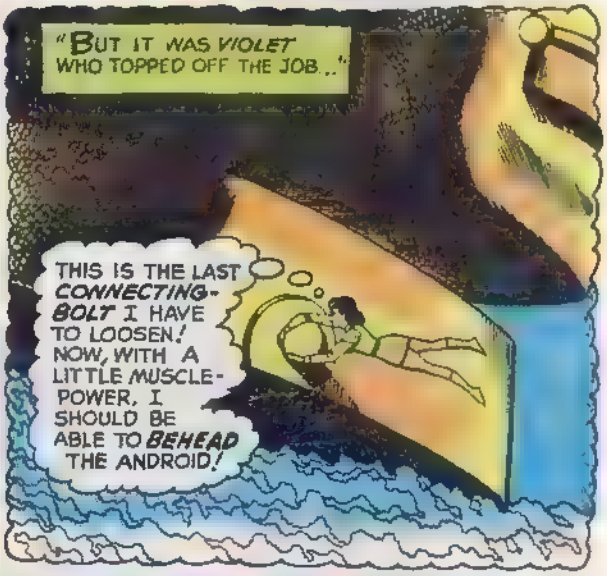

SO THE HERO TRIO FLIES ON... AND SOON, AT THE ASTEROID'S VERY CORE...
GOOD GUESSING, KLIM!
LEGIONNAIRES!?! YOU MUST HAVE INTERCEPTED MY BODY!

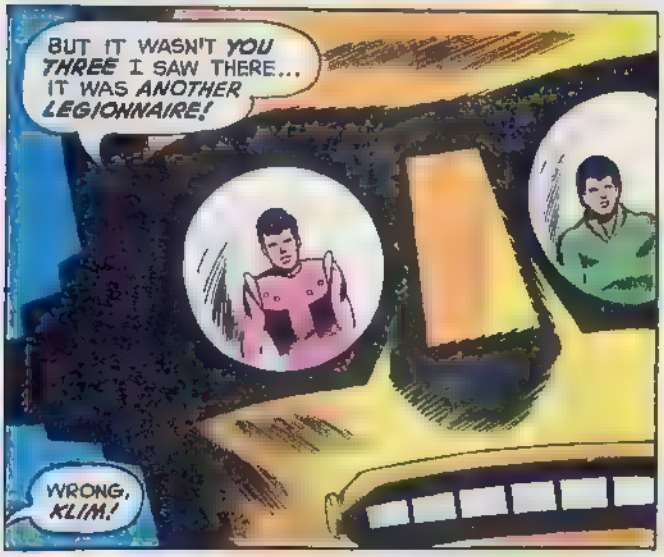

BAH! I CAN STILL DESTROY ALL THREE OF YOU! I ONLY WISH THE LEGIONNAIRE WHO DISABLED ME WAS HERE TO DIE WITH YOU!
BUT HE IS HERE-- RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU!

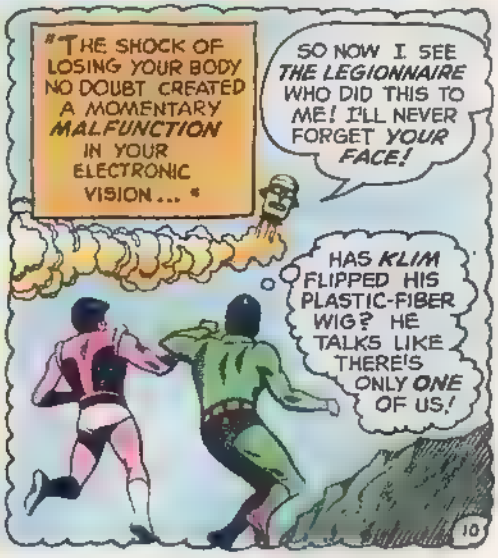
COSMIC BOY DEDUCED WHAT *REALLY* HAPPENED ON THAT JUNGLE PLANET!
WHAT?! YOU'RE MAD! I *SAW* THE MEDDLER MYSELF!
RIGHT! JUST LISTEN...

"WHEN *SHRINKING VIOLET, CHEMICAL KING* AND I LOCATED YOU-- WE LAUNCHED A THREE-WAY ATTACK..."
I'VE *MAGNETIZED* THE ORE-BEARING CLIFF WALL-- PINNING *KLIM'S* METALLIC SKIN TO *SOLID ROCK!* HE CAN'T BUDGE!

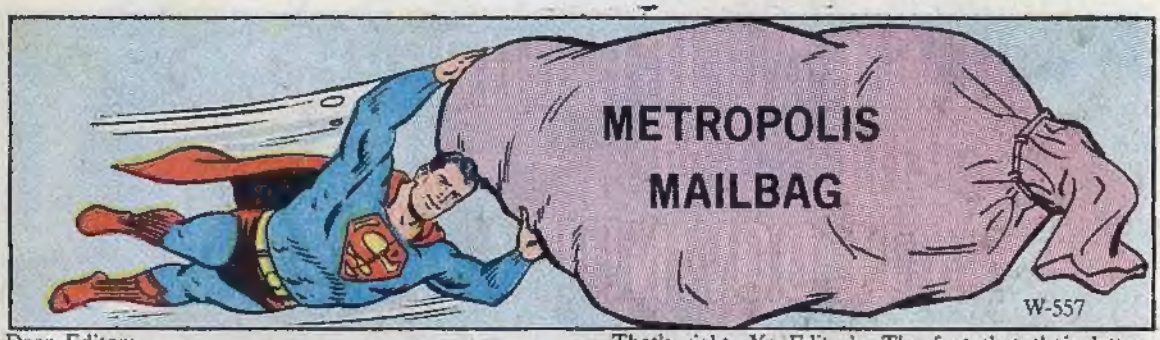
"NEXT, *CHEM* DID *HIS* BIT..."
I'M CHILLING THE NITROGEN IN THE AIR AROUND *KLIM* TILL IT BECOMES *LIQUID NITROGEN!* EVERY COMPONENT OF HIS BODY WILL BE *FROZEN* IN SECONDS!


"BUT IT WAS *VIOLET* WHO TOPPED OFF THE JOB..."
THIS IS THE LAST *CONNECTING-BOLT* I HAVE TO LOOSEN! NOW, WITH A LITTLE *MUSCLE-POWER*, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO *BEHEAD* THE ANDROID!


BUT IT WASN'T *YOU THREE* I SAW THERE... IT WAS *ANOTHER LEGIONNAIRE!*
WRONG, *KLIM!*


"THE SHOCK OF LOSING YOUR BODY NO DOUBT CREATED A MOMENTARY *MALFUNCTION* IN YOUR ELECTRONIC VISION..."
SO NOW I SEE *THE LEGIONNAIRE* WHO DID THIS TO ME! I'LL NEVER FORGET *YOUR FACE!*
HAS *KLIM* FLIPPED HIS PLASTIC-FIBER WIG? HE TALKS LIKE THERE'S ONLY *ONE* OF US!

"WITH YOUR DISTORTED VISION, YOU SAW A COMPOSITE LEGIONNAIRE-- CAUSED BY AN OVERLAPPING OF OUR IMAGES..."
THE LAUGH'S ON YOU, KLIM!
ALL THESE MONTHS, YOU'VE WANTED REVENGE AGAINST AN IMAGINARY HERO!
ON THE CONTRARY-- THE LAUGH IS ON YOU...
I PREPARED MYSELF FOR ANY EMERGENCY! YOU MIGHT WITHSTAND MY ELECTRONIC STUN-VISION-- BUT THIS CUBE'S UNIQUE PRISMA-GLASS WILL INTENSIFY ITS BEAMS A HUNDREDFOLD!
EVERYTHING IN THE CAVERN WILL BE VAPORIZED... EXCEPT ME!
BUT BEFORE THE KILLER ANDROID CAN CARRY OUT HIS THREAT..
STRANGE... MY VOICE SOUNDS HIGHER ... AND...THE PRISMA-GLASS--SHATTERING ALL AROUND ME!
WHICH MAKES YOU A NON-THREAT... AND OUR PRISONER!
YOU SHOULD'VE KEPT AN EYE ON VIOLET!
WHILE YOU TALKED, I SHRANK AND SLIPPED BETWEEN THE MOLECULES OF THE PRISMA-GLASS. THEN I MOVED INTO YOUR HEAD AND ALTERED YOUR VOICE-CIRCUITS! YOUR OWN SOUND WAVES SHATTERED THE GLASS!
BAH! THAT'S TWICE I'VE BEEN THWARTED BY ONE TINY FEMALE!
THE END



Dear Editor:

In issue 385, Superman went into the future immediately after he got the message from the 1,020th century. Yet he could have waited until the 24 hours were up and he was allowed to use super-speed to break the time-barrier. He could still have reached the same moment in the future. But I have an explanation. Superman had run into some Red Kryptonite which affected his brain so he couldn't think straight.

—Jeff Qualls, Memphis, Tenn.

(Nice explaining; Red K may be a menace to Superman, but it sure is handy for the editor who needs a ready alibi.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

I've been thinking about some unlikely marriages of your girl characters. For instance, if Salu Digby (Shrinking Violet) married Richard Loo, she'd be Salu Loo. If Lana Lang married Vincent Van Gogh and moved to Europe, would she be Lana Gogh and far away? If Kara Zor-El (Supergirl) married John Stuart Mill, she'd be Kara Mill. And if Tinya Wazzo (Phantom Girl) married Wally Wood, then divorced him and married Thomas Mann, she'd be Tinya Wood Mann.

—Arthur Harrison, Fort Worth, Tex.

(Why confine your suppositions to marriages? If Ayla Ranzz (Light Lass) got a job as a chimney-sweep, she'd be Cinder-Ayla.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

According to the dictionary, Superman and Supergirl are not invulnerable! The definition states that to be invulnerable is to be incapable of being injured. Yet Superman and Supergirl can be harmed by Kryptonite and by other super-beings.

—Dave Marr, San Bruno, Calif.

(Just when we're at our ease, someone like you comes along to destroy it with your too-precise definitions. No matter how invulnerable we are, there's always a kill-ease heel!*—Ed.)*

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In ACTION No. 385, Star Boy says Saturn Girl's name is *Imra* Ardeen. But in the next panel, Colossal Boy calls her *Irma.* Which is right?

—Bryan Kaster, Green Bay, Wis.

(Imra is right. The fact is, Colossal Boy had been thinking of his girl friend back on Earth, and her name was *Irma.*—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

I would like to write an open letter to Martin Pasko, Steve Carlberg, Loren Lieberthal, Joe Rusnak, Dave Truesdale, Irene Vartanoff and all you other lettercol monopolizers: You may have read DC's longer than I have, you may write more "intellectual" letters—in fact, MORE letters—than I do. But the fact that they get printed is not your fault. Guess whose fault it is? That's right, Ye Editor's. The fact that their letters are more "intellectual," etc., is no reason to let them MONOPOLIZE the "free" lettercols from us "poorer" readers.

—Alvin Yellon, Winnetka, Ill.

(We've never seen anything in the Bill of Rights that says everyone who writes in has to have his letter published. We pick the best, most thought-provoking *letters, and don't notice the signatures till we put 'em in the mag. And yours was... well... one of the most* provoking *letters we've received.*—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In ACTION No. 383, NS-II took Aabur to the confinement asteroid a few months before. In the next issue, it was said to have happened a few days before. Was this a mistake, two different incidents, or did somebody change his mind?

—Gary Kleppe, Milwaukee, Wis.

(The answer is: None of the above. Actually, it happened a few months before, Earth time. But on the home planet of the aliens, which rotates on its axis slowly, it was a few days.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In ACTION 384, you stated that the prison-transport was disintegrated by the fiery tail of a comet. To my knowledge, a comet's tail isn't fiery.

—Ray Fannan, Shoreham, N.Y.

(If you simply mean it isn't made of fire, you're right. But this particular comet had a radioactive tail, which was as hot as fire—and that fits one of the definitions of "fiery." If you still don't agree, take it up with Merriam-Webster.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

If Lightning Lad and Saturn Girl married and had children, I think they would combine their parents' powers. They would be like Validus, of the Fatal Five, able to project mental lightning.

—Colin Robertson, Bergenfield, N.J.

(Or maybe they'd have electronic brains.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor:

I think you should start a comic starring Lex Luthor in battles against Superman. You could call it "SUPERMAN'S ARCH-ENEMY, LEX LUTHOR."

—James Mills, Wadesboro, N.C.

(Lex would prefer not to have to be beaten by Superman on a regular schedule. He takes enough punishment as it is. But he'll be starring, along with the Joker and other DC evil-doers, in the next DC SPECIAL, on sale May 21.—Ed.)

* * * * * * *

Send all comments, on a postal card, to METROPOLIS MAILBAG, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Include Zip Code with your address.

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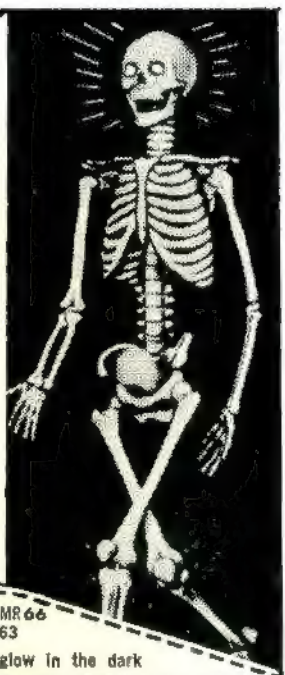

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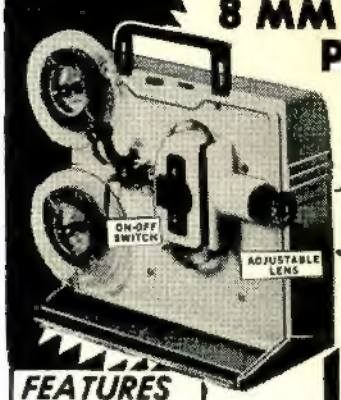

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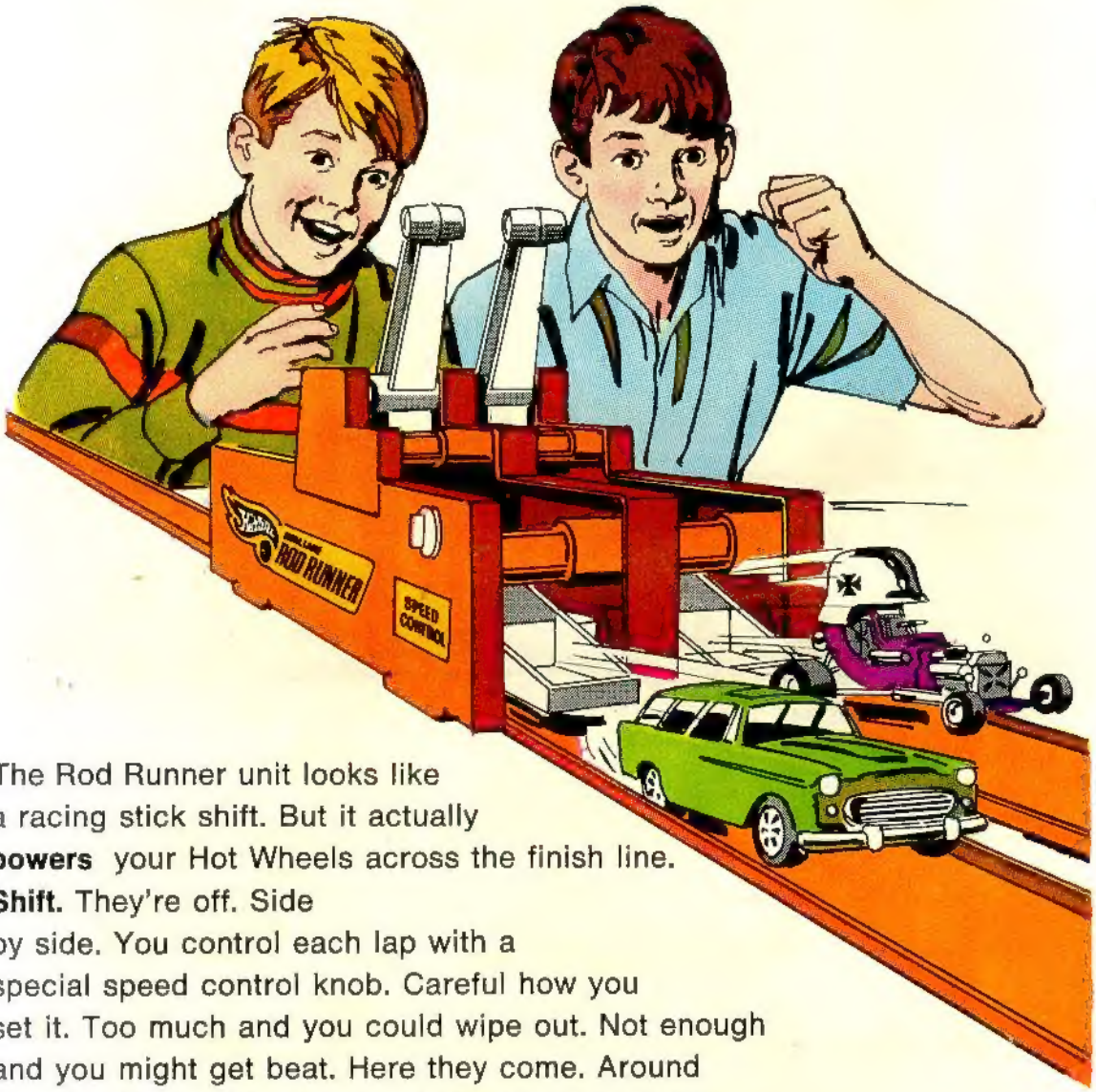

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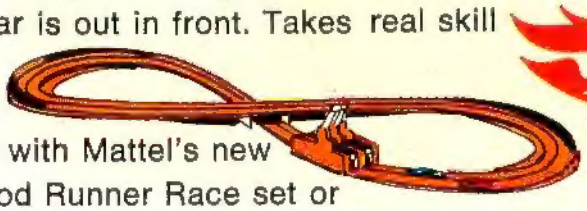

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